

REMARKS

At the outset, the Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated February 26, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed. The 3-month response date of May 26 was extended to May 29, 2007 as May 26 fell on a Saturday and May 28 fell on a Federal Holiday.

Claims 1, 10-12, 19, and 20 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 7-9 and 13-16 are currently pending.

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 7-9 and 13-16 are allowed.

The Office asserts that claims states 7-9 and 13-16 were elected by original presentation and claims 1, 10-12, 19, and 20 were withdrawn from consideration. Office Action at ¶ 1. While not necessarily agreeing with the Office, but in a sincere effort to move this application toward allowance, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 10-12, 19, and 20 herein.

The Office objects to claim 10 for an informality. *Id.* at ¶ 2. Claim 10 is cancelled; accordingly, the objection to claim 10 is moot.

The application is in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any

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overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. Applicants believe, however, that no fees are due, because the 3-month response date was extended to May 29, 2007, for the reasons stated above.

Dated: May 29, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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